

ATTACHMENT

Proposed substitution for first section of paragraph 2:

Well over 200,000 men have been dispatched from North Vietnam to South Vietnam since autumn 1965. Most of these have become casualties of the combat; others have fallen prey to disease or other mishaps. As of last month, we estimate that there were well over 70,000 North Vietnamese soldiers in NVA units in South Vietnam and well over 15,000 more in VC units. Even more are on the way. In recent months the total North Vietnamese presence has increased sharply and shows signs of continuing to increase rather than decrease. Thus, since 1964 there has been a dramatic jump in the proportion of NVA Army units opposing allied forces. In December 1964, organized NVA units (as distinct from Northern infiltrators in "VC" units) comprised a fairly small portion of total Communist combat strength in South Vietnam. The organized NVA unit strength began increasing sharply in early 1965. Today, NVA troops account for more than seventy percent of the total combined strength in the VC and NVA combat forces. This pronounced increase in numbers of Northerners has been accompanied by a growing dependence upon North Vietnamese Army ordnance. Both Viet Cong and NVA units operating in South Vietnam today are generally equipped with late model Chinese and Soviet small arms, mortars, and artillery. Moreover, the North Vietnamese Army has recently introduced into South Vietnam Soviet manufactured armored vehicles.

Second section of paragraph 2, beginning "In 1961,.." and ending "...and engage the division":

No Change

Third section of paragraph 2 beginning "In the northern provinces ..." and ending "...and 1 Viet Cong regiment":

Propose two changes:

- (a) In third sentence, substitute "at least" for "some" to make third sentence read "In January 1968, at least 40,000 main force troops..."
- (b) In last sentence, add the words "at least" between "had grown to" and "60,000"

Fourth section of paragraph 2 beginning "Further example ...":

No Change